GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2481
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
BUILDING OF AIRCRAFT CARRIERS
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work has not since been started in the direction of achieving the target set for building the indigenous aircraft carrier during 2003-2004;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay therein;

(c) the time by which the steel cutting work is likely to be taken up for building the indigenous aircraft carrier and the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the year-wise target set for developing the indigenous aircraft carrier; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to speed up the work of developing indigenous aircraft carrier and the number of such ships proposed to be developed?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Government have sanctioned construction of an Air Defence Ship of approximately 37500 MT at Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi.

(b) to (e): Work on the design of the ship has started. Other activities for constructing the ship as per the time schedule laid down have also commenced. A monitoring mechanism to monitor the progress of ship construction activities at a high level has been set up so that the ship construction activities proceed smoothly without any hindrances and the time schedules laid down for construction are adhered to. Presently only one ship of this type is planned to be constructed in India.